



CASE STUDY

AUTOMATED ELECTRIC & SERVICE

4B GROUP

4b-group@go4b.com

www.go4b.com



SLIDE GATE MONITORING | No Failures, No Guesswork - The Story Behind the Encoder-Flex 1024 and Its Real-World Success for Automated Electric & Service



DETAILS

Locations

Illinois

Indiana

Component

Encoder-Flex 1024 -

Rotary Shaft Encoder

TESTING

Before 4B Components released the Encoder-Flex 1024, Automated Electric and Service beta tested the revolutionary product on their commercial and farm grain system installs. When you're changing the way the industry monitors slide gates, having a partner who can explore the technology in real-world scenarios and deliver practical feedback is key. 4B Components found that in long-time customer and product advocate Bob Magarity.

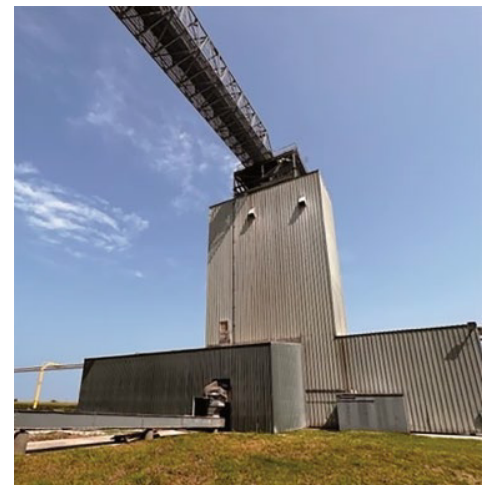
The Encoder-Flex 1024 rotary shaft encoder is designed to take the guesswork out of slide gate monitoring, delivering unprecedented flexibility on both retrofits and new installations—and Bob reports that it more than delivers.

In fact, when Automated needs a slide gate sensor, the Encoder-Flex 1024 is the only one they choose. "When we need something to read the percentage of how open a gate is, this is what we use," says Bob.

THE DIFFERENCE

Installing any kind of electronics in the incredibly tough environments of grain elevators, bins and storage facilities is, at best, a gamble. At worst, it can be a constant battle for consistent operation.

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"Since using the Encoder-Flex 1024, we haven't had any failures due to moisture, dust or other factors in tough environments."

Bob Magarity
Project Manager



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“Before we started using the Encoder-Flex 1024, it wasn’t a question of IF a sensor would fail; it was how long can we hold off the failure,” says Bob.

With 17 years as an electrician specializing in the agriculture and grain industries, he’s reached expert level at coaxing along sensor survival in the “pretty bad environments” in which he installs them.

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BETTER BY DESIGN

“The design of the Encoder-Flex 1024 is great for the environment we put it in—it’s stainless steel and sealed,” Bob explains.

The design he refers to is also compact, with none of the bulkiness traditionally associated with shaft encoders. Bob also points out that this encoder is built for simple installation and calibration.

“It is by far the easiest setup of any product we use to read a 4-20 milliamp signal,” he says. “It’s great to wire up and hooks up easily,” he says.

There is no need to open up the unit to calibrate; just apply the provided external magnet briefly. Resolution can be programmed for 1 to 1024 pulses per rotation, and advanced technology delivers a precise position from 0 to 100%.

After years of refining and leveraging the Encoder-Flex 1024, Bob says it’s now the standard for his company. “The Encoder-Flex 1024 is our go-to for when we need to monitor or change how customers can see equipment,” he says. “In fact, we’ve installed as many as 15 at one location in Illinois.”

WHY 4B COMPONENTS LIMITED?

The knowledge and expertise behind 4B Components set the standard according to Bob. “They just have great technical support,” he says. “4B’s Tech Team dominates everyone as far as technical support goes. I just prefer to work with 4B Components.”

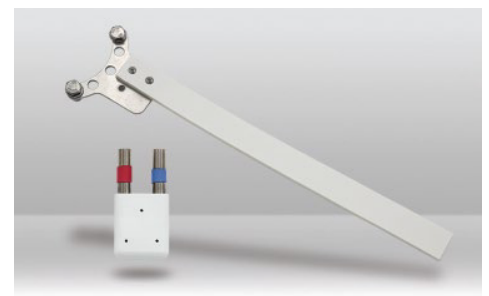
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PARTS PICTURES



Encoder-Flex 1024



Included Bracket and Calibration Magnet